Train from Raipur to Amritsar

†1603. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that South Eastern Railway had given an assurance of starting 2409/2410 up train from Raipur to Amritsar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that two new platforms have been constructed at Amritsar station now as a result of which problem related to terminal station has been solved;

(c) if so, whether Government would start train No. 2409/2410 up from Raipur to Amritsar at the earliest to fulfil the long standing demand of people of Chhattisgarh and save their time;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No additional platform has been constructed at Amritsar in the last two years.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) At present, there is no proposal for extension of 2409/2410 Gondwana Express upto Amritsar due to operational and resource constraints.

Fire in Bogies of Passenger Trains

1604. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several bogies of passenger trains caught fire during the last one year in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has investigated the cause of fire in bogies of passenger trains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Railways to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No. of incidents reported Rail-wise in last one year is as under:

North Central	North Eastern	East Coast	Central	Northern	South Eastern	South Central
1	1	1	3	2	2	2

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Necessary investigations have been done and required action taken.

(e) (i) Frequent drives are conducted against carrying of inflammable materials and dangerous goods in trains. Defaulters are booked under Section 164 of the Railways Act and cases are registered.

(ii) Regular checks are being conducted against smoking in trains and the cases are registered against offenders under section 167 of Railways Act.

(iii) Railways is providing fire extinguishers in locomotives, AC coaches, SLRs and Pantry cars for use in emergency.

(iv) Surprise checks are carried out by the RPF/GRP and Commercial Staff on luggage & parcels in trains and stations. Checks are also being conducted on two wheelers booked for transportation by trains and action taken if vehicles are found with petrol in them. Officers and Supervisors also carry out surprise checks to ensure vigil on the part of RPF/GRP escorting staff.

(v) Travelling public are being educated through Public Address System and Passenger awareness campaigns are being conducted through print and electronic media about the hazards of carrying inflammable material in trains.

(vi) Surveillance cameras are installed at important railway stations to monitor the movements of suspected elements.

(vii) All train escorting staff as well as station duty staff are trained to handle fire extinguishers and they are also briefed to inform the nearest fire service station in case of any eventuality.

Requirement of railway locomotive and engines

1605. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the projected requirement of railway locomotive and engines by the end of Eleventh Five Year plan;

(b) whether the current capacity in the country could meet the requirement or whether Government proposes to expand the capacity of existing manufacturing facilities;

(c) whether Government also propose to set up new manufacturing facilities with private participation and by when such facilities are likely to be commissioned; and

(d) whether it is a fact that only limited number of private players have expressed interest in these projects and if so, the reasons for such lack of interest from private players?